

Semioptera wallacii in Gilliard (1969: 126) is not correct, as Gould did not describe the bird, the plate of Wallace's Standard-wing Bird of Paradise in Gould's (1859) *Birds of Australia Supplement* was the second one (Roman numeral II, not Arabic ii) in Part 3 of the *Supplement* and is so listed on the cover of the third part, which is bound into the American Museum copy. "Part 3" was omitted from the reference in Gilliard. Plate 57 is the number of the plate in the recommended final binding sequence, as stated by McAlpine, and no reference should be made to parts if that number is used. According to the cover of Part 3, it was issued on 1 September 1859. This postdates all of the publications relevant to Gray's description cited above.

In my opinion the spelling *Paradisaea* is correct. In Linnaeus (1758: 83) the spelling *Paradisea* is a *nomen nudum* as no description is included, and it is not part of the Index. In the same work (p. 110) where the description occurs, the spelling is *Paradisaea*. Furthermore, the spelling is unchanged in the 10th revised edition of 1760. Linnaeus, in his subsequent 12th (1766) edition cannot be construed as the first reviser (see Article 24 a1 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*). When later authors have used the spelling *Paradisea* they have quoted the original description as Linnaeus, 1766. As the bird was obviously described in Linnaeus, 1758, p. 110 and spelled *Paradisaea*, this is the spelling which should be used.

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Address. Mary LeCroy, Dept. of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York 10024, U.S.A.

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The subspecific name of the Common Paradise Kingfisher *Tanyiptera galatea* from Halmahera Island, North Moluccas (Maluku Utara), Indonesia

by S. Dillon Ripley

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In reporting on a collection of birds made by my wife and myself on Halmahera Island (Ripley 1959), I discussed the Paradise (Racquet-tailed) Kingfishers *Tanyiptera galatea* of the Northern Moluccas with special reference to new material we had collected on Halmahera and Batjan islands.

Birds of this region had been described originally as *Tanysiptera margarethae* (Heine 1859), the type locality subsequently identified as Batjan by Hartert (1903). Subsequent to Heine's paper G. R. Gray (1860) erected the name *Tanysiptera isis*, based on material collected by A. R. Wallace from "Batchian" (=Batjan) and "Gilolo" (=Halmahera).

In 1959 I separated the Batjan and Halmahera populations taxonomically. Restricting the type locality of *isis* Gray to Halmahera, I applied the name *T. g. isis* to the subspecifically distinct population on that island. However, close examination of the description of Gray (1860), describing Wallace's collecting stations, shows that the material on which *isis* was based originated in fact from Batjan, not Halmahera. This is reaffirmed by Warren (1966). As a result, *isis* becomes a junior objective synonym of *margarethae* and is not available. This leaves the Halmahera population without a name or type specimen.

I therefore propose that the Halmahera population be named:

***Tanysiptera galatea browningi* subsp. nov.**

Holotype. U.S.N.M. No. 571751, male, skull ossified, collected 18 May 1981 by Paul M. Taylor at Kampung Pasir Putih, Jailolo District, Halmahera Island (near sea level).

Distribution. Halmahera Island.

Diagnosis. Comparing a series of birds collected on Halmahera with material from Batjan, I have noted that the birds from Halmahera have an ultramarine crown only very narrowly bordered on the sides with cobalt which forms a supra-ocular stripe. In contrast, birds from Batjan have a cobalt stripe which is much more pronounced, being broad, extending onto the crown and making a noticeable nuchal ring (cf. Ripley 1959). Additionally, the Batjan birds show more purple on the crown. These population differences were checked against material that I collected in 1954 as well as new material collected by Paul M. Taylor, and deposited at the U.S. National Museum, and the comparisons reaffirm the validity of these inter-island differences (*contra* Mees 1964).

Measurements of the type. Wing 97.5 mm (chord), tail 170 mm, bill from base 38 mm, tarsus 16 mm.

Acknowledgements. I am pleased to name this new subspecies in honour of M. Ralph Browning, of the National Bird Laboratories, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who very kindly brought this taxonomic problem to my attention. Thanks are also due to C. G. Sibley, for loan of material in his care at the Yale Peabody Museum, New Haven, USA.

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- Address*. Dr. S. Dillon Ripley, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.